

Act 101– The Municipal Waste Planning, Recycling and Waste Reduction Act of 1988, as amended requires that every municipality implement a recycling program after it reaches a population of 5000. East Coventry Township exceeded the 5000 population as of the 2010 census (6733).

To comply with the ACT, the Township Board of Supervisors adopted Ordinance No. 193 “Municipal Waste Collection and Recycling Ordinance”, making recycling a requirement for everyone. This ordinance was adopted on Monday, January 14, 2013 and becomes effective on March 1, 2013. Although the majority of residents already participate in recycling programs voluntarily offered by their trash hauler, it will now be mandatory that haulers provide a recycling program.

This article is a summary of the key requirements of Ordinance No. 193, a complete copy of which can be found on the Township’s website or obtained at the Township Office.

Responsibilities of Generator

Each person or entity that generates municipal waste and or recyclable material shall have such items collected by a municipal waste hauler legally operating within the township.

Collection shall be no less than once per week.

Owners, landlords and rental agents are responsible for publicly posting educational information provided by the Township and/or municipal waste collectors; provide recyclable collection containers and pick up of the containers. This responsibility can be assigned to the lessee of a single family home by means of a written assignment/agreement/lease.

Household hazardous waste and leaf waste must be separated from recyclable material and other municipal waste.

Occupants of residential units shall collect all designated recyclable materials in a commingled or modified commingled manner as designated by their municipal waste collector.

Newspapers may be placed at curbside in paper bags (not plastic bags) or bundled and tied, both across and lengthwise, with rope or cord and kept dry prior to collection.

No containers or bundles of newspaper shall weigh more than 50 pounds.

Municipal waste and recyclable material containers shall be placed on the property owner side of the curb for collection.

Owners or landlords of multifamily units (where individual collection does not occur) are responsible for providing containers or dumpsters for recyclable materials through arrangements with a municipal waste collector. These shall be located at easily accessible locations and written instructions provided to the occupants concerning their use and availability.

All tenants or lessees of multifamily units are responsible for separating recyclable materials and placing them in the containers/dumpsters provided for such purpose.

Owners or landlords of any institutional, commercial, business or industrial establishment are responsible for providing containers or dumpsters for recyclable materials through arrangements with a municipal waste collector unless those responsibilities are specifically assigned, in

writing, to the tenant or lessee of such property.

Grass Clippings

Property owners are encouraged to allow grass clippings to lay on the ground to decompose as natural organic fertilizer or taken to a compost facility which accepts grass clippings to reduce the amount disposed of as municipal waste.

Grass clippings that are not permitted to lay on the lawn or disposed of at an appropriate composting facility may be commingled with other municipal waste and collected curbside.

Materials to be recycled

Occupants of residential units are required to separate and recycle clear glass, colored glass, high-grade office paper, newsprint (including newspaper inserts, junk mail and telephone books), aluminum cans, bimetallic cans, No. 1 PET plastics, No. 2 HDPE plastics, No. 4 LDPE plastics and No. 5 PP plastics.

Commercial establishments are required to separate and recycle corrugated paper, high-grade office paper, aluminum cans, bimetallic cans, No. 1 PET plastics, No. 2 HDPE plastics, No. 4 LDPE plastics and No. 5 PP plastics.

Hospitality establishments which include restaurants are required to separate and recycle cardboard, high-grade office paper, newspaper (including newspaper inserts, junk mail and telephone books), aluminum cans, bimetallic cans, No. 1 PET plastics, No. 2 HDPE plastics, No. 4 LDPE plastics and No. 5 PP plastics.

All Community events attended by 200 or more people are required to have recycling containers.

Handling of Leaf Waste

Leaf Waste is defined as, "Leaves, garden residues, shrubbery and tree trimmings and similar material, but does not include grass clippings." **The burning of leaf waste is prohibited.**

Municipal Waste collectors shall provide for the curbside collection of leaf waste at least twice per year, once in the Spring and once in the Fall but may schedule collection of leaf waste more frequently.

Leaf waste shall not be left at the curb in a form which obstructs the flow of traffic or affects the performance of drainage facilities or catch basins.

Leaf waste may be dropped off at **Arborganic Acres**, an On-Farm Organic Composting Facility located at 901 Cherry Hill Lane, Pottstown, Pa. 19465, www.arborganicacres.com, pursuant to its rules and regulations.

Burning is no longer allowed except for recreational purposes, such as barbeques, campfires, chimineas and similar activities.